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his first deer for
the season



HAPPY
Thanksgiving

INSIDE

Elba runs past
Millry to advance
in playoffs



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 28

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, November 23, 2023

1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Elba and Kinston schools benefit from grant program

Nearly \$179 million in one-time money was awarded to 327 K-12 public schools through a new capital improvements grant program administered by Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth.

Elba City Schools received a total of \$463,000 of the grant funds while Kinston School [a part of the Coffee County School System] received \$2,000,000.

"Before awarding grants, we consulted with lawmakers across the state to gather their insights because they know their districts and the biggest needs within them," Ainsworth said.

The Capital Grant Program was created earlier this year by the Legislature, which gave Ainsworth responsibility for awarding the grants.

"We reviewed each application with strict adherence to the law, prioritized the schools and systems where funding would make the biggest impact, and worked hard to make sure each geographic region and area of the state received a fair allocation," Ainsworth said.

Eighty percent of the

grants were awarded to schools in which more than half of the students are considered at-risk, Ainsworth's office said. Individual awards range from several thousand dollars to \$5 million.

Awarded funds can be used to:

- Assist with capital projects that will enhance the educational environment of students;
- Pay for existing debt on previous capital projects;
- Assist with deferred maintenance on existing facilities; and

• Assist with projects to increase school safety and security and for technology and equipment for schools or students.



A new canvas-painted mural was revealed last Tuesday evening, Nov. 14, at the Elba Public Library. This Elba Community Mural was designed by Auburn University professor Wendy DesChene in collaboration with members of the Elba community. Several Auburn students from the Department of Art and Art History painted it during the fall semester, and it was officially revealed and put on display last week in Elba. The mural was co-sponsored by the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for Arts and Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University and Elba Public Library [and made possible by the Ann Draughon Cousins Fund for Excellence at Auburn]. Above, those from Auburn University involved with the project are shown fielding questions from the Elba community during the reveal ceremony.

Smith announces re-election bid as Coffee County Commissioner

Dean Smith this week announced his intent to seek re-election as Coffee County Commissioner for District One.

He has served as the chairman of the Coffee County Commission for 12 years, and during his time as a Coffee County Commissioner, Smith helped lead the effort to bring Ben E. Keith's Southeast Regional Headquarters and new Distribution Center to Coffee County. This led to the retention or creation of over 250 jobs.

"I was honored to play an instrumental role in the partnership between the commission and the City of Enterprise to bring the new Veterans Home to Coffee County," Smith said. "This new VA facility will provide 175 beds for our veterans and employ 250 people."

Also, Smith noted his part of the commission's efforts to champion the landfill gas to energy project with Nextera.

"All these projects have helped our county be successful over the years and given us all something to be proud of here in Coffee County," Smith said. "Along with those economic projects, it has always been important to me to push for continued improvements to our county roads."

In 2023, over 30 miles of Coffee County roads were resurfaced, Smith said.

His service as a Coffee County Commissioner also has allowed Smith to serve beyond his commission seat and represent all of Coffee County. Some of his additional services include: Alabama Association of County Commissioners Legislative Committee member; Alabama Association of County Commissioners Liability Self Insurance Fund Trustee; Member of the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission; and Board Member of the Wiregrass Resource Conservation Development Council.

Further, Dean serves as a Deacon and Sunday School Teacher at Whitewater Baptist Church, where he and his wife, Pam, are very active members.

"In March for the Primary Elections, I ask all citizens of District One to vote to re-elect me as your Coffee County Commissioner," Smith said. "We want to continue our growth and bring more projects to our county. Let my experience help us continue to do that for all of Coffee County."



The Christian Mission store, located in downtown Elba, was the sight of a two-vehicle wreck Friday morning, Nov. 17, around 9:15 a.m. The accident was on the Buford Street side of the Christian Mission store. The driver of the small Toyota car [pictured above sandwiched between the building and a Toyota van] said her brakes failed as she attempted to park at the Christian Mission thus leading her vehicle to jump the curve. Before coming to a stop the car hit the side of the building and the van, which was already parked at the time of the accident. There were no injuries reported in the incident, which was investigated by Elba Police. Also responding to the scene was the Elba Volunteer Fire Department and a unit from Enterprise Rescue.

ALEA dishes out safety tips for Thanksgiving 2023

Thanksgiving marks one of the busiest weeks of the year on Alabama roadways. This year, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) urges everyone to prepare to share the road with millions of other motorists as AAA predicts more than 49 million Americans will be driving during the upcoming holiday. "There is nothing better than making memories with family and friends dur-

ing this extended holiday weekend, even if it means driving for hours and traveling long distances," ALEA Secretary Hal Taylor said. "We encourage everyone to make sure your vehicle is travel ready, leave early to allow for heavy traffic, buckle up and never drive impaired. Your welfare and the safety of others this season starts with an individual commitment to responsible actions."

This year's holiday travel

period begins at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22, and ends at midnight Sunday, Nov. 26. All available Troopers within ALEA's Highway Patrol Division will conduct additional enforcement details to ensure Alabama roadways are as safe as possible and prevent traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities.

As always, motorists will play a key role in traffic safety and should obey speed limits, make sure everyone in the vehicle is properly buckled up and avoid texting and other

distractions while driving.

With a chance of rain and storms in the forecast for some parts of the state, holiday travelers can also check roadway conditions and live video feed from ALGO before leaving the house.

Colonel Jonathan Archer, director of ALEA's Department of Public Safety, said, "As law enforcement officers, ALEA Troopers face a multitude of challenges as part of their job but notifying the loved

ones of their whereabouts and

returning home safely is the most important part of their job."

See ALEA, Page 2

Wardrobe named RWCC 2023 Volunteer of the Year

Jane Wardrobe was named the 2023 Sue Cobb Republican Women of Coffee County (RWCC) Volunteer of the Year at the Thursday, Nov. 16, RWCC meeting.

Wardrobe has been an active member since 2020, and from that time, she hasn't stopped working for the good of the club. She accepted the membership vice-president position, and RWCC has grown through her service. She not only brought in new members, but she headed up the first RWCC Fashion Show Fundraiser, which was a tremendous success. Through this event, ties with the local community were strengthened.

RWCC members say that Wardrobe cares deeply about her community. She has become an active member of the Downtown

Enterprise Community,

serving on the Board of Directors and Chairperson of the Promotion Committee. This committee is responsible for all the Downtown Enterprise events.

Wardrobe is currently serving as the President of the RWCC.

The Sue Cobb Volunteer of the Year Award was established in 2002 and is awarded each year to a RWCC member whose volunteerism has had a significant impact on the club. The award is named in honor of Sue Cobb, who was a charter member of RWCC when it was re-established in 1971. She served two terms as president, and she won state awards for her leadership.

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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

I believe the key to happiness is someone to love, something to do, and something to look forward to...
- Elvis Presley

The sermon at church Sunday was opened with a bit about "what are you thankful for". It got us to thinking of all the things we have to be thankful for. It would take a book to list all the things, large and small for which we are thankful. Some of them have unusual twist, including the first one that popped into our mind. Our dad was killed in an accident when we were five years old. He left three children under age of six and a wife that was eight months pregnant. That is not a good memory but the positive to us is that we was old enough to remember him fondly where the sisters, both younger and/or not born have no memories of him. His coming home from work and vaulting the white picket fence as his children yelled "Daddy's home", left priceless memories in our memory bank.

The list gets longer, some back-door gratitude, as the first or routine like when I joined the church at about seven or eight. We liked the pastor, he came to our house and talked to yours truly about church before I joined. We recited either the Lord's Prayer or the 23rd Psalms during a radio broadcast from our church one Sunday morning and I do believe Mother thought that was our "ticket to heaven"! (We probably gave her dozens of reasons to question that thought while growing up) Happily, our paths crossed with that preacher again after we became an adult. But don't forget our youthful skating and bike riding "show off" stunts! Don't forget our neighborhood "gang" finding the drunk man passed out in the under construction new church building one Saturday afternoon!

Jumping forward, our time in the military produced some close friends, one friendship lasting until several years ago and the death of my former roommate and fellow aircraft mechanic. He died in 2016 several months after Heddy and I visited him and his wife in Utah. We rehashed Army events from the late '50's for hours as our wives each commented 'Oh I have heard that story many times'.

Being diagnosed with 'terminal' cancer in the mid-sixties but surviving with no after-effects was, and continues to be a humbling event.

Three children, that are the highlight of our "thankful" things also contribute many warm feelings in our heart.

Elba experienced two floods during our sixty years here. We learned we could survive and are still amazed at the many acts of help and kindness we witnessed in the aftermath of each one. Our personal ability to rebound from each of those disasters fill us with gratitude, for both our stamina and the loyal support of our advertisers and readers. We are also pleased at having been given the opportunity to work with a great committee of local citizens and get funds to upgrade the Elba levee following the last flood. It would be impossible to name all the people, both local, statewide and in Washington who went the extra mile to help make that project a success.

We would be remiss not to include wife Heddy's Alzheimer's and ultimate death because we were able to keep her with us until her death at home, attend to her every need, etc. We had over two years of fulfilling her daily needs to demonstrate to her (and ourself) our love and unqualified devotion to her, our life together and the family we raised.

Most of our readers can hopefully write their own "Thankful List"! God Bless each of you and enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday!

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BE HERE! STOREWIDE DO NOT MISS!

SALE!
NOV 19 - NOV 26

HUGE SAVINGS! UP TO 75% OFF DAILY DOOR BUSTERS!
Entire store on sale for this event!
Nothing held back!
Every item will be discounted for this event!!!!

SPECIAL HOURS FOR THIS EVENT

Mon-Wed 9:30 am-7 pm
Thanksgiving Day (Closed)
Friday 7 am-8 pm
Saturday 9 am-7 pm

Yes!
Open
Sunday
1-5 pm

ALEA Continued from Page ONE

ones of those killed in traffic crashes is truly one of the most dreaded responsibilities they have. We ask those traveling on Alabama roadways to make traffic safety a top priority and remember that you are the best gift you can give your family this holiday season."

According to data compiled by the Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS) in Alabama, 65 lives have been tragically lost during previous extended Thanksgiving travel periods from 2018 to 2022. Since 2019, CAPS has recorded an overall decline in traffic related injuries and deaths, however, ALEA needs everyone's assistance to ensure that trend continues.

ALEA Troopers offer the following traffic safety tips for this Thanksgiving holiday:

Take breaks and rotate drivers during long trips. If you feel fatigued, pull over and stretch your legs, get something to eat or drink and make sure you are ready to continue your trip before getting back behind the wheel. Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges and never drive drowsy.

Use seatbelts and proper child restraints. Alabama's seat belt/child restraint law requires ALL passengers – no matter how old or which seat they are occupying – to be buckled up no matter how short the trip. Whether you are going across the state or just around the corner, buckle up.

Remember Alabama's Move Over Law. When approaching emergency or tow vehicles along all roadways, motorists must move over or slow down at least 15 mph below the posted speed limit if they are not

able to change lanes.

Keep the left lane for passing only. Not only is it courteous driving and avoids impeding traffic, but Alabama law also requires slower traffic to keep to the right and to only use the left lane for passing (when posted).

Motorists may drive for up to a mile and half in the left lane before moving back into the right lane.

Eliminate distractions while driving. Distractions include texting, utilizing a cell phone or smartphone, talking to passengers, watching videos, playing mobile games, adjusting the radio, navigation system or other devices. Distractions endanger drivers, passengers and bystanders.

Alabama law prohibits

texting while driving as well as searching the Internet on a mobile device while operating a motor vehicle. In case of emergency, pull off the roadway in a safe location prior to placing a call.

You are the best gift you can give your family this holiday season. Practice safe driving habits and never drink and drive. Make alternate travel plans if you are consuming alcohol. Individuals younger than age 21 are prohibited from consuming alcohol, and it is illegal for anyone to have an open bottle of alcohol in a vehicle. To ensure teens and older children do not consume alco-holic beverages at various festivities, parents and other adults should closely monitor the situation.

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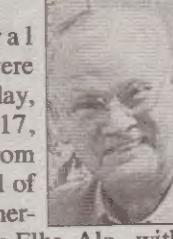
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Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com**TOMMY GREENWOOD**

Mr. Tommy Greenwood, age 76, of Opp, Ala., died Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, at Opp Health and Rehabilitation.



Funeral services were held Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba, Ala., with Rev. Jack Chancy officiating. Burial services followed in the Evergreen Cemetery.

He was preceded in death by his father - J.W. Greenwood, mother - Ruby Shiver, wife - Janet Greenwood, sisters - Kathy Davis, and Judy Greenwood; plus a step-granddaughter - Ashley Dean.

Survivors include a special friend: Mavis Carter, Opp; daughter: Gwendolyn (Frederick) Gillis, Katy, Texas; sons: Michael (Laure) Greenwood, Medina, N.Y., Dwayne Hilliard, Savannah, Ga., and Terry (Kate) Godwin, Samson, Ala.; step-daughters: Stacy (Johnny) Landingham, Samson, Lisa Landingham, Opp; granddaughters: Charity Greenwood, and Desiree Greenwood; both of Medina; grandsons: Dustin (Cindy) Gillis, Casper, Wyo.; Bradley Gillis, Grand Junction, Colo., and Devan Gillis, Katy, Texas; step granddaughters: Jessica Landingham, Brittany Landingham, Geneva, Sabrina Stevenson, Anisic Stevenson, Gina Dean, all of Geneva, Ala.; step grandsons: Nicholas Landingham, Michael Stevenson, both of Geneva; sister: Sharon (Sam) Turner, Dothan, Ala.; four great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

CAROLYN VAUGHAN McDOWELL STOKES

A lifelong resident of Elba, Carolyn Vaughan McDowell Stokes, age 92, died Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, surrounded by her three daughters.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023, from Elba United Methodist Church with Rev. Springer Cain officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Remembrances may be sent to Elba United Methodist Church, 503 West Davis Street, Elba, AL 36323 or the United Methodist Children's Home, 3140 Zelma Court Suite 100, Montgomery, AL 36106-2607.

Carolyn was born Jan. 27, 1931, to Dave and Lillie Mae Morrow Vaughan. Graduating from Elba High School and Troy State Teachers College, she will be remembered as a first grade teacher at Hillcrest Elementary School in Enterprise, a first grade teacher at Elba Elementary School, the founder in 1962 and teacher of the Jack and Jill Kindergarten for over 10 years, and fin-

ishing her teaching career in Elba with a year of 8th grade science.

Carolyn married Jackson William "Bill" Stokes on August 1, 1953. They were married for 50 years before his death in 2003. All of their married life Bill and Carolyn were devout members of the Elba United Methodist Church, where Carolyn was the children's Sunday School superintendent for more than 10 years. She will also be remembered as the caring manager of the Elba Senior Citizen Center for over 10 years.

Carolyn was preceded in death by her first husband, Robert Lamar McDowell; son, David Lamar McDowell Stokes; husband, Bill Stokes; brother, Jack David Vaughan; and sister, Martha Vaughan Tatton Meacham.

Survivors include her daughters: Cynthia "Cindy" Stokes Darnell (Conie Mac), Macon, Ga., Susan Stokes Lawford (Dennis), Elba, Jackie Stokes (Don), Ozark, Ala.; daughter-in-law: Suzanne "Susie" Prior Stokes, Ashville, N.C.; and sisters-in-law: Jean Roberts Vaughan, Elba, Roylene McDowell Sellers, Enterprise; along with 10 grandchildren and their spouses, as well as, 21 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

DOROTHY SUE HAYMON

Mrs. Dorothy Sue Haymon died Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023. Sue's life began in Elba, Ala., as Dorothy Sue Wyrosdick on Jan. 22, 1940, during World War II. Funeral services were held

at Pilgrim Home Baptist Church in Wicksburg, Ala. as per Sue Haymon's request. Absolutely NO flowers. Please, in lieu of flowers, send donations to Pilgrim Home Baptist building fund. Mail to Pilgrim Home Baptist Church, 13534 US Highway 84, Newton AL 36352 or donate via their website www.pilgrimhomewicksburg.org - click ONLINE GIVING - Please select Building for the FUND type.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Angus Smith Haymon (Bud); her son, Doyle Haymon (Doyle Knobles Haymon); and 15 siblings.

Survivors include two stepsons: Rufus Edward Haymon (Barbara), Robert Micheal Haymon (Evelyn); one stepdaughter: Marianne Haymon Marler (Ernest); a daughter: Sandra Quinn Haymon Batchelor (Larry); five grandchildren: Seth Haymon (Paula), Preston Ray Sellers (Ashton), Erin Marler Vey (David), Heather Nicole Johnson (Tyler), and Tiffany Batchelor Cobb (Ty); nine great-grandchildren; three siblings: Joseph Wayne Wyrosdick, Jo Ann Wyrosdick Bess, and John Harmon Wyrosdick, Jr. (Pete); her nieces and nephews; and a dear friend of over 50

years, Wanda Gayle Key.

MAXINE BOYD Mrs. Maxine Boyd, age 97, of Jack, Ala., died peacefully at her home Sunday morning, Nov. 19, 2023.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home Chapel in Elba with Grady Williams and Rev. Mark Cooper officiating. She was buried Wednesday, Nov. 22, at Eastern Gate Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Pensacola, Fla.

Maxine was preceded in death by her husband, Johnnie B. Boyd; and her parents, Robert and Frankie Smith Estes.

Survivors include her daughters: Cynthia "Cindy" Stokes Darnell (Conie Mac), Macon, Ga., and Deborah Sue (Robert) Braithwaite, both of Pensacola, Fla.; and a son: John Stewart (Sandra) Boyd, Blairsburg, Ga.

JAMES WILLIAM RICHARDS

Mr. James William Richards, age 76, of Elba, Ala., died Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, at Crowne Health Care of Montgomery, Ala.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Michael Allen officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home. Visitation was at Hayes Funeral Home on Tuesday from 2-3 p.m.

James was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Richards; and parents, Clyde and Mary Fuller Richards.

Survivors include his daughter: Angela (Jeffrey) Allen, Prattville, Ala.; son: Timmy (Crystal) Richards, Belpre, Ohio; granddaughter: Tiffany (Trey) Matthews, Samson, Ala.; and a grandson: Tristan Allen, Prattville.

James took a genuine interest in people and their conversations. She listened intently to her children, their spouses, her grandchildren, and great grandchildren about their lives, aspirations, hobbies, and families, encouraging them in their endeavors. Dorothy cultivated gratitude and, long after the event, continued to express the gratefulness she felt for gifts received and acts of kindness shown to her. She frequently spoke highly and lovingly about the people in her life.

Dorothy is preceded by her husband Melvin Clinton Freeman, her parents Dennis Carey and Una V Miles, her sisters Mary Magdalene "Maggie" Miles White and Betty Sue Miles Bowers, and great-grandson William Cole Carpenter. She is survived by her sister Delores Miles Bermuth of Hoover, AL; by her children Stephanie Freeman Carpenter (Steve) of Madison, FL, Melvin Clinton "Clint" Freeman, Jr. (Dianne Barber) of Alexander City, AL, Antony "Tony" Craig Freeman (Dawn Belisle) of Oxford, AR, and Susan Freeman Weiner (Michael) of Charlottesville, VA; nine grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dorothy will be buried alongside her husband Lieutenant Commander Melvin C. Freeman (US Navy Retired) at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. The date and time of the service will be announced when available. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made in the name of Dorothy Miles Freeman to the charity of choice. Friends may sign the guestbook at teaguefuneralhome.com.

IRENE HODGE

Mrs. Irene Hodge, age 92, a resident of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023, at M'dia Center Enterprise.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023, beginning at 11 a.m., from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Donnie Marler and Rev. Lucas Taylor officiating. Burial followed in the Zoar Community Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home. Visitation was at Hayes Funeral Home on Wednesday from 10-11 a.m. The family requests memorials be made to the Zoar Cemetery Fund, c/o Jo Hodge, 3631 County

Road 306, Elba, AL 36323.

Irene was preceded in death by her parents, Noah and Alzie Lee Tidwell; her husband, Curtis Hodge; a son, Mac Hodge; grandchildren, Wesley Clark, Kacy Clark, and Talisa Bozeman; great grandson, Troy Bozeman; and two sons-in-law, David Taylor, and Wallace Clark. Survivors include her daughters: Dot Taylor, Elba, Linda (Don) Flowers, and June Clark, both of Jack, Ala.; sons: Byron (Jo) Hodge, and Chris Hodge, both of Elba; daughter-in-law: Kay Stinson, Jack; granddaughters: Morgan (Matt) Spivey, Mobile, Ala., Dr. Beverly (Mickey) Jordan, Enterprise, Ala., Donna (Kenny) Smith, Northport, Ala., Kerri (Ryan) Richburg,

BRYAN LINDSEY Mr. Bryan Lindsey, age 83, a resident of Athens, Ga., died Sunday, November 19, 2023, at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens. Funeral arrangements will be announced upon completion by Hayes Funeral Home of Elba, Ala.

**DOROTHY DUBOISE MILES FREEMAN (1932-2023)**

Dorothy "Dottie" Duboise Miles Freeman, age 91, passed away on October 24, 2023, in her apartment at Rosewood Village Greenvill Assisted Living Community, Charlottesville, VA. She had resided previously at University Village in Charlottesville since 2003. Dorothy knew Jesus Christ as her Savior, and she looked forward to going home to the Lord and to reuniting with her loved ones who have gone there ahead of her.



As the oldest of four children born to the late Dennis Carey "Caro" Miles and Una V Kelley Miles, on April 15, 1932, in Elba, Alabama, Dorothy was a natural caregiver. One of her sisters recently recounted, "I loved her like a mother." Dorothy graduated from Elba High School in 1950. She then attended Massey-Draughon's Business College, Montgomery, AL, and upon completion, she worked at the Southern Baptist Convention Headquarters in Montgomery, AL, until her marriage.

Dorothy was married to her husband of sixty years, Melvin Clinton Freeman (LCDR, US Navy, Retired) of Opelika, Alabama in 1953, until his death in 2013. She supported her husband in his US Naval career, starting in Yokohama, Japan (1953-1955), where she worked for the US Navy. Other duty stations included Norfolk, VA; Newport, RI; Key West, FL; Saigon, Vietnam (Dorothy and children lived in Opelika, AL); and Columbia, SC. Their last duty station was NORAD, Colorado Springs, CO (1971-1972). As Dorothy accompanied her husband, she often worked as an administrative assistant while raising their four children. She was an accomplished hostess, delighting their guests with her specialty shrimp curry or sweet and sour pork. They retired to Opelika, AL and lived there thirty-one years, 1972 to 2003, until moving to Charlottesville, VA, to live near their daughter Susan Weiner and her family. Some of Dorothy's favorite pastimes were walking, watching people, gardening flowers and vegetables, and reading. She especially enjoyed the beach, birdwatching, and travel. Dorothy loved to go to the beach with her husband, children, and grandchildren. For many years, she and Mel went for a month every summer to Gulf Shores, AL. Frequently, Dorothy could be observed stretched out in her chair under an umbrella with her purse tucked neatly under her arm to watch the sunset. Dorothy found pleasure in birdwatching as a hobby. She and Mel liked to sit at their breakfast table and point out the different birds to their grandchildren. Dorothy appreciated traveling to new places whether hiking to the top of Chimney Top in the Smoky Mountains, taking a cruise to Alaska, or touring Europe, Morocco, and Quebec. In recent years, she enjoyed simple outings with family to the nail salon for a pedicure, to the bagel restaurant for her favorite sandwich, or to a nearby town for ice cream.

Dorothy took a genuine interest in people and their conversations. She listened intently to her children, their spouses, her grandchildren, and great grandchildren about their lives, aspirations, hobbies, and families, encouraging them in their endeavors. Dorothy cultivated gratitude and, long after the event, continued to express the gratefulness she felt for gifts received and acts of kindness shown to her. She frequently spoke highly and lovingly about the people in her life.

Dorothy is preceded by her husband Melvin Clinton Freeman, her parents Dennis Carey and Una V Miles, her sisters Mary Magdalene "Maggie" Miles White and Betty Sue Miles Bowers, and great-grandson William Cole Carpenter. She is survived by her sister Delores Miles Bermuth of Hoover, AL; by her children Stephanie Freeman Carpenter (Steve) of Madison, FL, Melvin Clinton "Clint" Freeman, Jr. (Dianne Barber) of Alexander City, AL, Antony "Tony" Craig Freeman (Dawn Belisle) of Oxford, AR, and Susan Freeman Weiner (Michael) of Charlottesville, VA; nine grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dorothy will be buried alongside her husband Lieutenant Commander Melvin C. Freeman (US Navy Retired) at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. The date and time of the service will be announced when available. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made in the name of Dorothy Miles Freeman to the charity of choice. Friends may sign the guestbook at teaguefuneralhome.com.

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Since most holiday traditions center around time spent with friends and family, it can make the loss of a loved one feel even more magnified.

When the holiday season comes around after losing a loved one, you will likely have many unexpected feelings and emotions.

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There is no way to get around it. If you try hiding or burying your feelings, you will only make yourself feel worse. However, there are coping strategies that can help ease the pain. And friends and family members can take steps to support those in mourning.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook to be notified when we release our weekly grief support tips for getting through the holidays after the loss of a loved one.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesh@hayesfuneralhome.net

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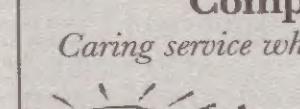
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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Paul Jackson, Pastor
Covenant Community Church

"Give thanks in all circumstances"

Have you ever noticed that what breaks one person makes another person stronger? Even better? Why is that? I'm sure there are many contributing factors to this, but "how" we respond to life's twists and turns and bitter disappointments is so critical. Let me explain.

Keith Miller in his book *The Edge of Adventure* tells the moving story of a 40-something year old woman named Alice who was a guest one evening at a small group that he was leading. He had never met her before that night.

As was the group's custom, they gave each person the opportunity to tell something about themselves. One older lady had experienced a great deal of heartbreak and sadness in her life and seemed bitter about it. Then it was Alice's turn to share.

"When I was a tiny girl," she said, "I was put in an orphanage. I was not pretty at all, and no one wanted me. But I can remember longing to be adopted and loved by a family. I thought about it day and night. But everything I did seemed to go wrong. I guess I tried too hard to please everybody who came to look me over, and all I did was drive people away."

"Then one day the head of the orphanage told me a family was going to take me home with them. I was so excited, I jumped up and down and cried. The matron reminded me that I was on trial and that it might not be a permanent arrangement. But I just knew it would be."

"And so, I went with this family and started school in their town—a very happy little girl. Life began to open for me, just a little."

"But one day, a few months later, I skipped home from school and ran in the front door of the big old house we lived in. No one was home, but there in the middle of the front hall was my battered old suitcase with my little coat thrown over it. As I stood there and looked at the suitcase, it slowly dawned on me what it meant . . . they didn't want me. And I hadn't even suspected."

Miller relates that Alice paused for a moment before finishing the story, but they hadn't noticed. They all were there in that hall staring at a battered suitcase and trying not to cry. Then Alice cleared her throat and said almost before-of-factly, "That happened to me seven times before I was thirteen years old."

By this time almost everyone in the group was in tears, some were even weeping, feeling great compassion for this woman.

Alice was genuinely touched by their response to her story. But she held up her hand and shook her head slightly in a gesture to stop us from feeling sorry for her.

"Don't," she said with a genuinely happy smile. "I needed my past. You see, it brought me to God."

After my salvation, the thing I am most thankful for is that God redeems one's past. Nothing is ever wasted with him. He can take all the broken pieces and make something beautiful from them. He did it for Alice. He's done it for me. He can do it for you, too.

Friends, this is why the Apostle Paul could write so boldly in I Thessalonians 4:16-18: "Be joyful always. Pray continually. Give thanks in all circumstances . . ."

This Thanksgiving, why not pause a moment and remember what the Lord has done for you and give him thanks. As the psalmist reminds us, "He is good, and his faithful love endures forever (Psalm 107:1).

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH

Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor

Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.

Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Deborah A. Butler, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Wed. Bible Class . . . 6:30 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

David Noble, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 10:45 a.m.

Even. Worship . . . 5:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study . . . 7:00 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Steve R. Martin, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH

Robert Lewis, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.

CHESTER GROVE METHODIST CHURCH

Remonia Smiley, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

Larry Mills, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Wed. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Lowell Martin, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Steve Rennau, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.

Even. Services . . . 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Mark Jordan, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

ELBON BAPTIST CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

ELBON BAPTIST CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

ELBON BAPTIST CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

ELBON BAPTIST CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

ELBON BAPTIST CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

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ELBON BAPTIST CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.

SPORTS NEWS

Views From
The Pressbox
By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our youngest grandson Cannon came for a visit over the weekend and showed off his climbing skills as he tried to climb on top of everything he saw. He got a little aggravated at times when he couldn't get a grip on his object, but never stopped his adventures until he climbed on the bed in our bedroom and put his head on the pillow.

For what it is worth....

*** *The Elba Tigers gave a big home crowd plenty to cheer about last week as they ran up and down the field in a 47-28 playoff win over Millry. The Tigers scored almost at will against the state's seventh-ranked team, and if not for a couple of self-inflicted wounds could have very well scored on every single possession. It was great to watch the Tigers do what they do best on offense and light up the scoreboard, again. Over on defense, the Tigers dominated play for the first three quarters before tiring a little at the end and giving up two late scores. The defense was tough against the run and picked off two passes in one of its better performances of the season. It was a great win, a great atmosphere and a great night to be an Elba Tiger!*

*** *The Brantley Bulldogs have been hard to stop in recent weeks and have lit up the scoreboard in almost every win, but last week showed it could still play winning defense as they shocked previously unbeaten Loachapoka to advance to the third round. The Bulldogs have surprised everyone but themselves during their five-game winning streak, and don't have any plans to stop anytime soon.*

*** *The high school football playoffs continued last week and there were more than just a few surprises, even though only one undefeated team lost, with Loachapoka falling on the road to Brantley 14-12. Three #1 seeds in 7A moved on, while in the other classes the #1 seeds that moved on included all eight in 6A, 5 in 5A, 5 in 4A, 5 in 3A, 7 in 2A and 4 in 1A. No #4 seeds survived the second round, but seven #3 seeds did stay alive in a surprise. The two highest scoring teams in round two were Wadley, with an 81-27 win over South Lamar, and Brooks, which rolled over Priceville 70-42. A couple of other interesting wins came with Pike Road rallying from a 17-0 halftime deficit to defeat Spanish Fort 31-17, and Mary Montgomery rallying from a 10-0 deficit with 5:14 remaining in the fourth quarter to stun Enterprise 13-10. B.T. Washington, Headland and Mary Montgomery won second round games for the first time ever, while teams that have never won a third round game include the three listed above, as well as Gulf Shores, Locust Fork, Moody, West Morgan and Westminster Christian. One fact that did indeed catch my eye was that Maplesville owns a 14-2 all-time record when playing at home in the third round!*

*** *The high school basketball season has tipped off across the area and it looks like another exciting season ahead. Zion Chapel has already picked up big wins over Pleasant Home and Flora to open a lot of eyes early in the season, while New Brockton was impressive in a home win over Houston Academy and Kinston picked up a win over Samson after a slow start and will no doubt only get better. On the girl's side, Zion Chapel surprised Pleasant Home and looks much improved, while New Brockton looked good in a win over Houston Academy and may be ready to take the next step toward being a big 3A winner. Kinston came out running and are no doubt a team to keep an eye on, and Brantley picked up two wins and appears ready to take back its place among the 1A elite.*

*** *It was a so-so week for the favorite college teams across the state as Alabama pounded Chattanooga 66-10, Troy rallied past Louisiana 31-24 and Auburn laid an egg in a 31-10 loss to New Mexico State. The Crimson Tide was expected to have an easy time and did just that in its lopsided win over the outmanned Mocs, while the Trojans had to battle for all four quarters to escape with a harder than expected home win, and the Tigers spent \$1.8 million to bring a team to town that cashed the check and then handed them an embarrassing loss on the way back to the airport.*

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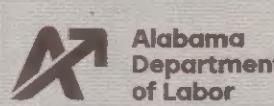
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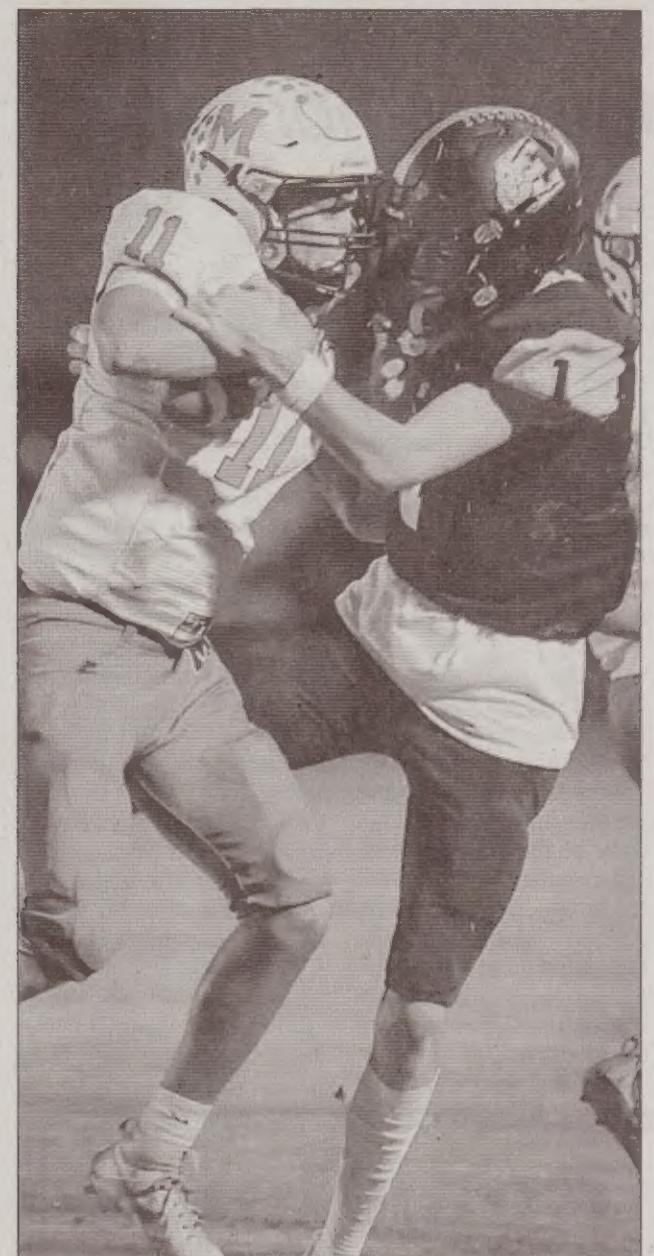
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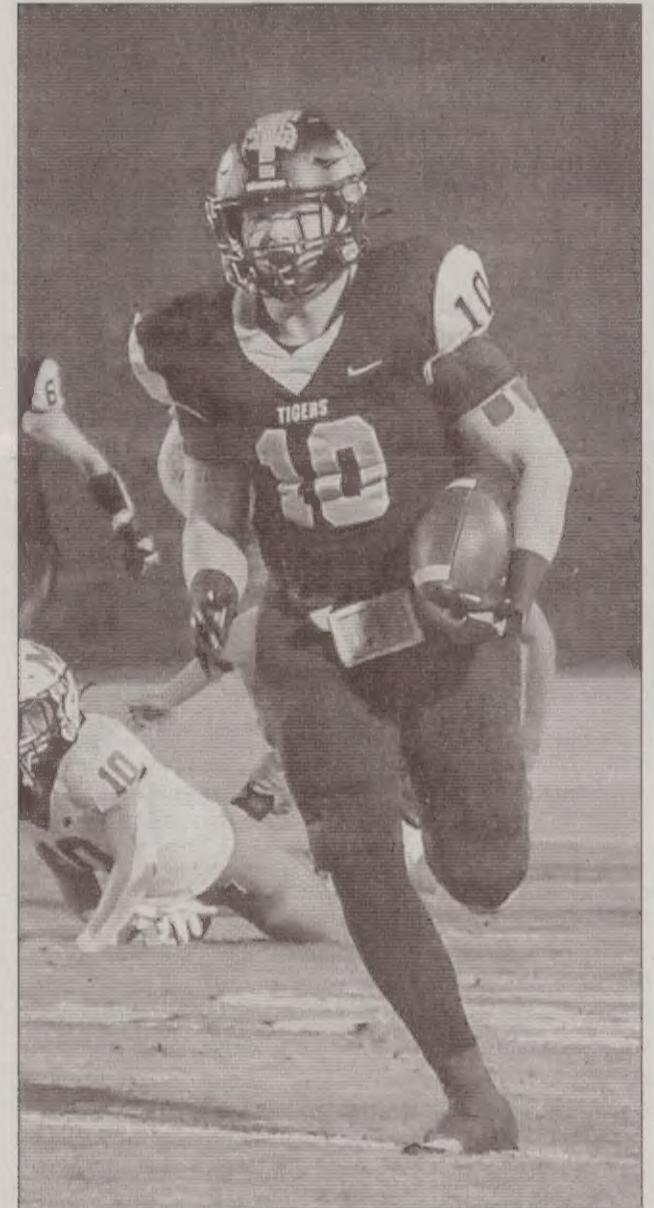
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SPORTS NEWS



Elba Tiger Collin Arnold (1) delivers a rude welcome to a Millry runner as they meet around the end at last week's 47-28 playoff win.



Elba Tiger Cayden Adkins (10) is off and running. Adkins rushed for 112 yards and 1 touchdown on 10 carries in last week's playoff win.



Elba Tiger cheerleader Taylor Day had plenty to cheer about last week as the Tigers upped their record to 12-0 with a big playoff win.

ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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In playoff action

Elba runs over Millry 47-28

By, Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor
Photos by BC Sports Photography

The second-ranked Elba Tigers pulled ahead early and never lost command Friday night in an impressive 47-28 second round playoff win over the seventh-ranked Millry Wildcats, on a damp night on Mack Wood Field, at Tiger Stadium.

Elba began its first series of the night at its own 29-yardline after a Millry punt and took only two plays to cover the distance into the endzone. The Tigers Cayden Adkins ripped off a 56-yard run on first down and then turned the corner on a 15-yard scoring dash on the second play of the possession, while Alex Wisecup kicked the extra-point to put Elba on top 7-0 with 10:42 left in the first quarter.

Millry bounced right back following the Tiger touchdown and went 37-yards in three plays to quickly answer the Elba score. The Wildcats score came on a 25-yard touchdown toss from Dayton Edmunds to Eli Adams, and while the extra-point sailed wide, the Tigers lead had been cut to 7-6 with 9:26 remaining in the quarter.

Elba began its ensuing possession near midfield and went 52 yards in seven plays to extend its advantage. Alvin Henderson rushed for 46 yards on four carries to lead the Tigers down the field, and scored his first touchdown of the night on a 6-yard dash. The extra-point try sailed wide, but with 6:31 left in the quarter Elba's lead had grown to 13-6.

Elba lost a fumble on its next possession at the Millry 22-yardline, but regained possession at the Millry 22-yardline after a 25-yard pass interception return by Cody Gray, and two plays later was back in the endzone, this time on a 4-yard run by Henderson. Wisecup kicked the extra-point as the Tigers lead went to 20-6 with 55-seconds still left in a wild first quarter.

Elba marched to a first down at the Millry 13-yardline on its next possession, sparked by a 25-yard pass completion from Brayden Johnson to Collin Arnold. However, the Tigers saw the drive big down, and settled for three points on a 29-yard field-goal by Alex Wisecup as the Elba lead stood at 23-6 with 7:12 left in the second quarter.

Millry regained momentum quickly as on the ensuing kickoff Eli Adams fielded the kick at the 14-yardline, spotted room to run in the middle of the field and raced 86 yards for a Wildcat touchdown. Shooter Holyfield booted the extra-point, and with 6:54 remaining in the quarter the Tigers lead had been cut to 23-13.

Elba put the ball in play at its own 41-yardline after the ensuing kickoff, and once again headed down the field to reach a first down at the Millry 14-yardline. Elba was again unable to punch the ball across the goal line; however, and again settled for three points as Alex Wisecup booted a 31-yard field-goal to push the Tigers lead to 26-13 with 2:49 left in the half.

The Tigers dodged a bullet in the waning seconds of the half when Cody Gray picked off his second pass of the game Millry in the endzone, and at intermission Elba went in still clinging to a 26-13.

Elba lost its second fumble of the game on its initial possession of the third quarter at the Millry 32-yardline, but got the ball back near midfield after a Wildcat punt and went 55 yards in only three plays to extend its lead. Alvin Henderson rushed for 49 yards on two carries and scored his third td of the night on a 1-yard run, and Wisecup tacked on the extra-point as the Tigers lead went to 33-13 with 5:55 remaining in the quarter.

Elba began its next possession at its own 45-yardline and this time needed six plays to cover the 55 yards into the endzone. Brayden Johnson rushed for 20 yards on two carries to help lead the Tigers down the field, while Alvin Henderson added 43 yards on three carries and scored the Tiger touchdown on a 2-yard run. Wisecup was true with the extra-point, and with 11:54 left in the fourth quarter Elba was in command with a 40-13 lead.

Millry showed signs of life on its ensuing possession and pulled within 40-20 with 11:33 left on the clock after a 59-yard run by Eli Adams and the extra-point by Holyfield, but the Tigers were far from through and bounced right back with a 40-yard scoring drive that ate up over five minutes off the clock. Cayden Adkins had a 26-yard dash to help lead the Tigers down the field, while Alvin Henderson scored his fifth touchdown of the game on a 9-yard run. Wisecup added the extra-point as the Tigers lead ballooned to 47-20 with 6:52 remaining on the clock.

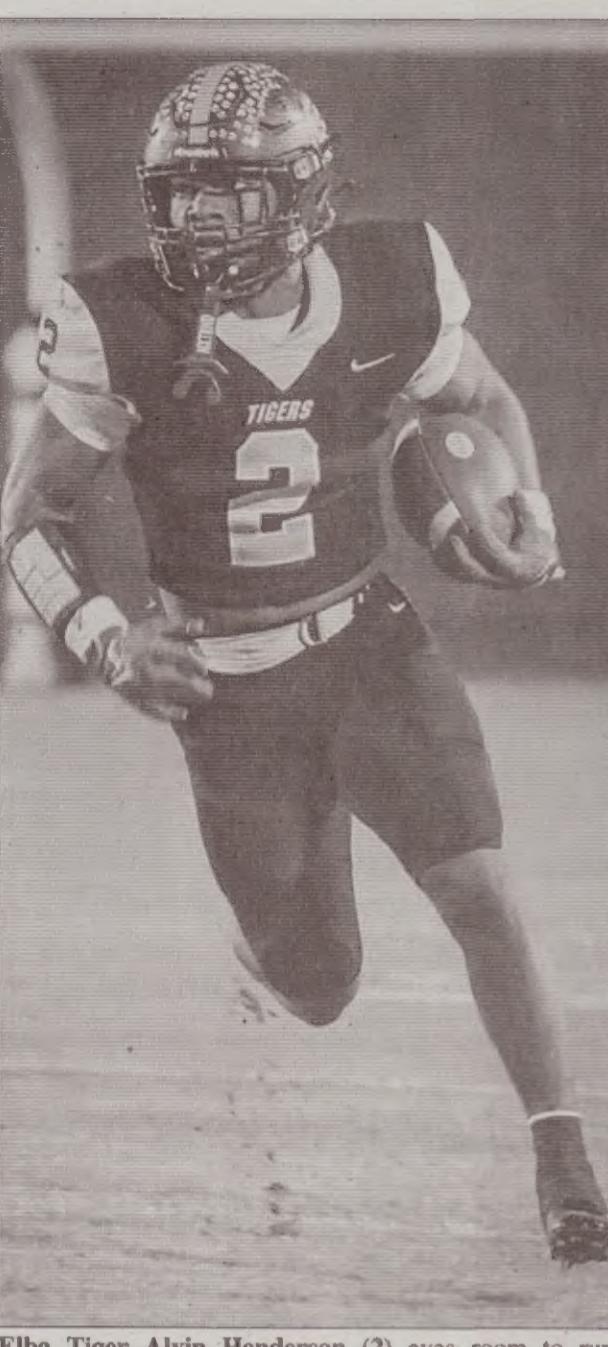
Millry added a score with 3:36 remaining on a 7-yard pass from Edmunds to Holyfield and added two-points on a pass involving the same Wildcat duo, but it was way too little, way too late, as the Elba Tigers posted the big 47-28 playoff win.

Alvin Henderson rushed for 335 yards and 5 touchdowns on 32 carries to lead Elba's ground attack, while Cayden Adkins added 112 yards and one td on 10 carries, and Brayden Johnson rushed for 41 yards on six carries and completed 1 of 3 passes for 25 yards.

Eli Adams rushed for 59 yards and one td on one carry, pulled in two passes for 26 yards and one td, and returned a kickoff 86 yards for a touchdown to lead Millry, while Dayton Edmunds rushed for 28 yards on 10 carries and completed 8 of 17 passes, with two interceptions, for 97 yards and one td.

The yardstick....

| E | 1st Downs | M |
|--------|----------------|--------|
| 20 | Rushes-Yds. | 8 |
| 50-480 | Passing-Yds. | 17-90 |
| 25 | Total Offense | 97 |
| 505 | Passes | 187 |
| 1-3-0 | Fumbles/Lost | 8-17-2 |
| 4/2 | Penalties-Yds. | 2/0 |
| 6-50 | Punts-Ave. | 11-84 |
| 0-0 | | 5-30 |



Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (2) eyes room to run. Henderson rushed for 335 yards and 5 touchdowns in last week's 47-28 playoff win over Millry.



Elba Tiger Alex Wisecup (3) booted field goals of 29 and 31 yards last week in the Tigers second round playoff win over Millry.

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SPORTS NEWS



Brantley Bulldog Jaytavis McMeans (10) picked off two passes last week and returned one for a 38-yard touchdown in the Bulldogs 14-12 second round playoff win over Loachapoka.

Brantley Bulldogs host Leroy in third round

The Brantley Bulldogs will be back at the friendly confines of David Lowery Stadium on Friday night when the host the defending 1A state champion Leroy Bears, in third round prep playoff action.

It will be only the second meeting all-time between the two football powers, with Leroy posting a 42-14 playoff win a year ago. Brantley has won a total of 4 state championships in football and have a win total of 609 games while Leroy has claimed 6 state

Elba junior high season ends

The Elba Junior High Tigers and Lady Tigers concluded their basketball seasons last week with the Tigers claiming a big 40-18 win over Dauphin and the Lady Tigers dropping their finale to Dauphin 50-6.

In the 40-18 win, the Tigers jumped out to a 16-0 first quarter lead and never looked back to close the season with a bang. Laquatos Edwards scored 20 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Levi

Martin 8, Johnny Barrow 5, Ky'Avian Stoudemire 2, Cole Astemborski 2, Brison Burks 2 and Powell Bane 1. David Killingsworth scored 7 points to lead Dauphin.

In the 50-6 loss, the Lady Tigers were simply outmatched and trailed 29-3 as they failed to keep pace with the Lady Dolphins. Jadyne Caldwell scored 5 points and Jabraia Burks added 1 to lead Elba. Bahja Williams scored 22 points to lead Dauphin, while Justice Britt added 14.



Eli Adams, age 10, of Elba, killed this deer recently at a youth hunt.



Levi Daniels, age 12, killed his first deer on the season Sunday afternoon, Nov. 19, while hunting in Coffee County. Levi is the son of Claude and Marsha Daniels of Elba.

Bob Bush, DVM
Veterinary Express of Lake Martin
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery
334-343-0408
Intersection of Claxton Ave & Simmons St
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Upcoming Elba Clinics: Dec. 6 & Dec. 20

In 14-12 playoff win

Brantley defense defends home turf

Statistics by W.J. Adcock
Photos by Cody Nichols

The Brantley Bulldogs opened up a 14-0 third quarter lead and held on to post an exciting 14-12 upset win over the previously unbeaten Loachapoka Indians, Friday night in the second round of the Class 1A playoffs, at David Lowery Stadium.

The win was the fifth straight for the red-hot Bulldogs, improved their record to 8-4 and moved them into third round play this week at home against defending 1A state champ Leroy.

Neither team could get anything going on offense in the opening quarter, and it as the Brantley defense that helped set up the game's first score when Jaytavis McMeans picked off an Indian pass near midfield.

A 35-yard pass from Jayden Parks to Daylan

Davis moved the Bulldogs to the Loachapoka 20-yardline, and two plays later Parks connected with Cooper Layton from 15 yards out to put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard. An extra-point attempt failed, but with 4:39 left in the half Brantley was on top 6-0.

Brantley's defense continued to repel the Indian attack early in the third quarter and this time put some points of its own on the scoreboard when Jaytavis McMeans picked off his second pass of the game and this time returned it 38 yards for a Bulldog touchdown.

Loachapoka came to life after the pick six and after a 60-yard kickoff return covered the 30

yards to the endzone in just four plays to get on the scoreboard. The Indian score came on a 21-yard td toss from Quinjavis Neils to Donzion Chatmon, and while an extra-point try failed, Brantley's lead had been cut to 14-6 with 7:24 still left in the third quarter.

Loachapoka dodged a bullet when a penalty flag wiped off an apparent Brantley 58-yard punt return for a touchdown by Thomas Williamson, and two plays after the flag the Indians got a big break with a fumble recovery at the Brantley 29-yardline.

Loachapoka cashed in the turnover and got back in the endzone with 27-seconds left on the clock on a 6-yard, and with the extra-point try again failed, the Indians were within 14-12 heading into the fourth quarter.

Brantley was determined

Roundball Roundup

VARSITY BOYS:

Zion Chapel 71 Pleasant Home 61

The Zion Chapel Rebels picked up an impressive early-season win by knocking off Pleasant Home 71-61. Slade Grantham scored 24 points and Jacob Chestnut added 15 to lead the Rebels.

Red Level 66 New Brockton 62

The New Brockton Gamecocks battled for all four quarters in a 66-62 loss to Red Level. Josiah Peterson scored 24 points and grabbed 20 rebounds to lead the Gamecocks, while Baylon Foster added 15 points and 3 steals, and Yassiah Rousseau scored 9 points and had 16 steals.

Northside Methodist 65 Kinston 30

The Kinston Bulldogs fell behind early and never challenged in a 65-30 loss to Northside Methodist. Braylen Clements scored 25 points and nailed six three-pointers to lead Northside Methodist, while Kyle Kirchhoff added 12 points, 10 rebounds and 6 steals.

Zion Chapel 65 Flora 63

The Zion Chapel Rebels pulled off an early-season upset with an exciting 65-63 win over Flora. Jacob Chestnut scored 16 points to lead the Rebels, while Slade Grantham added 15, Mason Stuart added 13 and Hayden Speckert added 10. Rayshon Coleman led Flora with 29 points.

Kinston 53 Samson 60

The Kinston Bulldogs claimed their first win of the young season with a 53-39 victory over Samson. Michael Thompson scored 25 points and Zane Martin added 11 to spark the Bulldogs, while Tyson Wells led Samson with 9 points.

New Brockton 52 Houston Academy 41

The New Brockton Gamecocks jumped out to a 14-2 first quarter lead and never looked back in an impressive 52-41 win over Houston Academy. Yassiah Rousseau scored 10 points and had 4 rebounds and Baylon Foster added 10 points and 4 steals to lead the Gamecocks, while Josiah Lewis added 7 points and 8 steals.

VARSITY GIRLS:

Kinston 36 Northside Methodist 27

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs continued on their early-season roll with an impressive 36-27 win over Northside Methodist. Kaley Norris scored 25 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Alyssa Turner led Northside Methodist with 9 points.

Samson 45 Kinston 12

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs had a hard time finding their way to the basket in a 45-12 loss to Samson. Kaley Norris scored 7 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Samson was led by Holly Warren with 13 points and 8 rebounds, and Brantley Edberg with 12 points and 9 rebounds.

New Brockton 42 Houston Academy 40

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks carried an 8-point lead into the fourth quarter and held on to defeat Houston Academy 42-40. Anya Barkley scored 11 points, grabbed 10 rebounds, had 2 steals and 1 blocked shot to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Ariana Smith added 9 points, hit two three-pointers, and grabbed 4 steals, and Gabby Eubanks added 7 points, 2 rebounds and 3 steals.

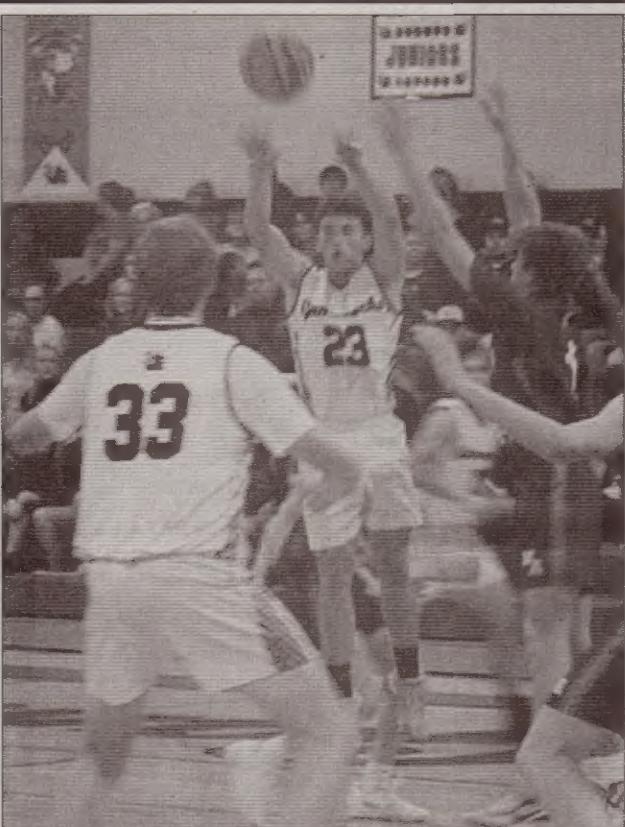
Brantley wins two at tournament

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs competed at the Luverne Thanksgiving Classic last week and posted two wins in the two-day event.

The Lady Bulldogs opened the tournament with a 43-33 win over Calhoun. Alex Grimes scored 16 points, pulled down 5 rebounds and had 4 steals to lead Brantley, while Myia Mount added 12 points and 13 rebounds, and Coco Stamps added 10 points and had 6 steals.

The Lady Bulldogs claimed a 47-25 win over Pike County in second day action. Alex Grimes scored 16 points, pulled down 5 rebounds and had 4 steals to lead Brantley, while Coco Stamps added 12 points, 5 rebounds, 5 steals and 5 assists, and Myia Mount pulled down 12 rebounds.

The Lady Bulldogs closed the tournament with a 54-31 loss to Enterprise. Coco Stamps scored 17 points and Alex Grimes added 13 to lead Brantley.



New Brockton Gamecock Blake Cox (23) passes the ball to a teammate in last week's win over Houston Academy.

(Photo by Martha Ball)

JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS:

New Brockton 31 Red Level 28

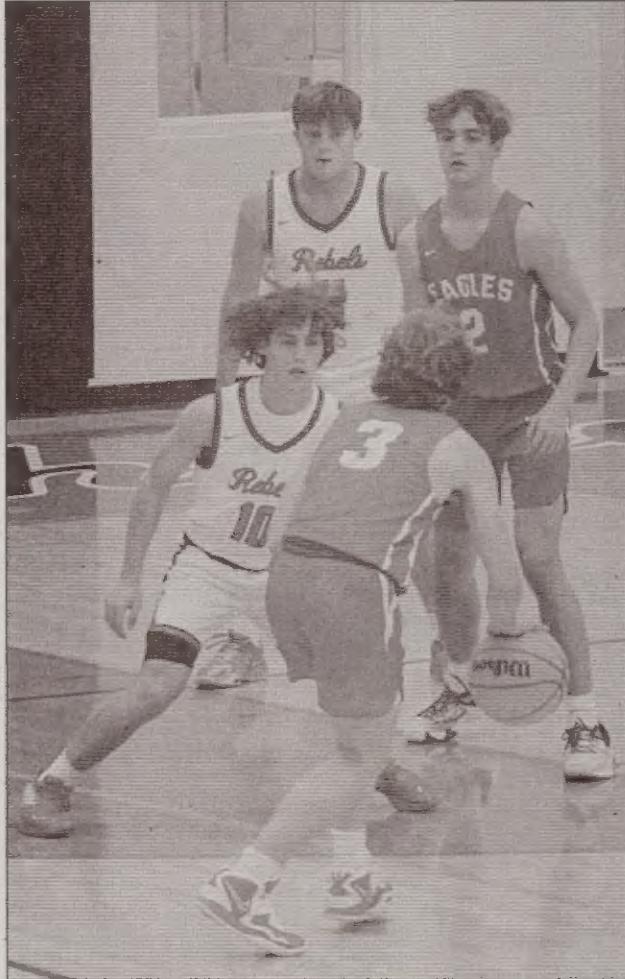
The New Brockton Gamecocks outscored Red Level 6-3 in overtime to escape with an exciting 31-28 win. Gabriel Dean scored 10 points to lead the Gamecocks, while William Adkison and Aden Barkley both added 6 points.

Northside Methodist 47 Kinston 12

The Kinston Bulldogs never had a chance in a 47-12 loss to Northside Methodist. Kingston Whaley paced Northside Methodist with 14 points and 6 steals.

Kinston 44 Samson 40

The Kinston Bulldogs claimed a wild 44-40 overtime win over Samson. Zavory Stanley scored 10 points to lead Kinston, while Tucker Marler added 9 and Kadin Sims scored 8.



Zion Chapel Rebel Brodie Stinson (10) closes in to apply pressure in last week's big win over Pleasant Home.

(Photo by Amanda Clark)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Event set for Sunday, Dec. 3rd

Pilot Club of Enterprise to host 2023 Christmas Tour of Homes

The Pilot Club of Enterprise has been pleased to host the Annual Christmas Tour of Homes for over 40 years. This is an annual event that citizens look forward to every year.

This year's event is Sunday, Dec. 3, from 1-4:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased from any member of the club. They can also be purchased at Initially Yours, Shopaholic Home Décor and Gifts, and Yancey Parker's.

Participating homes

include the Eugene and Charlene Goolsby home; the Michael and Beverly Greenwood home; the Bob and Joan Hauser home; the Zachary and Leslie Jenkins home; and the Justin and Anna Beth Martin home.

The Pilot Club's mission is to influence positive change in communities throughout the world. To do this, club members come together in friendship and service, focusing on encouraging brain safety and health and supporting those who care for others.



This display of nutcrackers at the home of Justin and Anna Beth Martin is among the beautiful Christmas decorations to be viewed during the tour of homes set for Dec. 3rd.



The Elba Tigers football team managers, videographer and two varsity cheerleaders were recognized last Friday, Nov. 17, during the Elba Quarterback Club's 'gameday' lunch meeting. Coach Marc Sieving spoke on the importance of the managers and videographer all play in the team's success, and he said he believes Elba has some of the best. Also, Coach Sieving thanked the cheerleaders for all they do to keep the crowd cheering for the team each and every Friday night. Those pictured include (from left): videographer Braden Eldridge, team managers Garrett Hill, Dylan Holley, Powell Bane, Matthew Laramore, and Landon Pridgen; and cheerleaders Jah'Haira Walker and McKenzie Foster.

IRS Criminal Investigation's Atlanta Field Office warns of romance scams

Scammers use many tactics to separate unsuspecting victims from their identities and money. One of the tactics is the romance scam, which in 2022 affected approximately 70,000 victims with reported losses of \$1.3 billion, according to a report by the Federal Trade Commission.

"Investigating criminals defrauding innocent victims through romance scams is just one of the various crimes our special agents investigate," said Demetrius Hardeman, Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation, Atlanta Field Office. "These scams leave many victims financially devastated and emotionally manipulated."

The criminals create fake online profiles, usually on social media applications and dating websites, and attempt to build phony emotional attachments until a potential victim is comfortable sending them money. Many of scammers find victims by pulling online public information, which they use to do research.

"It is important that people are careful of people they meet through social media sites," Hardeman said. "Many of these scammers are very patient and will wait weeks or months to gain a victim's trust."

To avoid becoming a victim of romance scams, people should follow these tips:

Never send money to anyone you have only communicated with online or by phone.

Be careful what you post and make public online.

When starting a new relationship, take it slow, and ask lots of questions.

To report romance scams or other types of online crimes, victims can make a report at <https://www.ic3.gov/>. The website contains information including Frequently Asked Questions, consumer and industry alerts, and a graph on complaints and losses over the last five years.

Be alert to those who seem too perfect or quickly ask you to leave a dating service or social media site to communicate by other means.

Beware of those who want to isolate you from friends and family.

Don't share inappropriate photos or financial information that could later be used to extort you.

Be suspicious if the individual promises to meet in person but then never does.

"Many of the criminals involved with romance scams are part of an organized crime group," Hardeman said. "People who suspect they have become victims of romance scams can make a report to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center."

IRS-CI is the criminal investigative arm of the IRS, responsible for conducting financial crime investigations, including tax fraud, narcotics trafficking, money laundering, public corruption, healthcare fraud, identity theft and more. IRS-CI special agents are the only federal law enforcement agents with investigative jurisdiction over violations of the Internal Revenue Code, boasting a more than a 90 percent federal conviction rate.

LEGAL NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge

-----Continued from Page 5-----

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

Default being made in the conditions of that certain mortgage executed by ROBERT WAYNE BOLDING, an unmarried man, SHARON SASSER, a married woman, and JONATHAN M. WILLIS, an unmarried man, to Troy Bank and Trust Company, a banking corporation, on April 5, 2019, and being recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, Page 520, said Mortgagor to realize the entire indebtedness hereby will, on the 11th day of December, 2023, between the legal hours of sale at the Courthouse door in Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division, under the powers contained in said mortgage, sell at auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:

One lot or parcel of land containing two acres, more or less, lying in and being a part of the NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 34, Township 6 North, Range 20 East, and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the point where the northwest right of way line of the Elba-New Hope Paved Road, as the same is now located in said forty, intersects the North line of said NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 34, Township 6 North, Range 20 East, and running thence in a southwesterly direction along the northwest right of way line of said road a distance of 948 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel herein described; thence continuing in a southwesterly direction along the northwest right of way line of said road a distance of 210 feet to a point; thence running in a northwesterly direction along a line perpendicular with the northwest right of way line of said road a distance of 420 feet to a point; thence running in a northeasterly direction along a line parallel with the

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LIFESTYLES

Elba City Schools accepts referrals and assesses students for gifted education programs/services

Gifted students are those who perform at or who have demonstrated the potential to perform at high levels in academic or creative fields when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment.

These students require services not ordinarily provided by the regular school program. Students possessing these abilities can be found in all populations, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor.

Teachers, counselors, administrators, parents or guardians, peers, self, or any other individuals with knowledge of the student's abilities may refer a student.

Coffee County Arts Alliance to bring choral presentation, Messiah, to First Baptist Church Enterprise on Dec. 3rd

Messiah, A Community Choral Presentation is created with the desire to provide Coffee County and the Wiregrass Area with a Choral rendition of Handel's Messiah.

On Sunday, Dec. 3, the First Baptist Church Enterprise, located at 302 North Main Street, will resonate with the celestial melodies of Handel's most revered composition, "Messiah." This transcendent oratorio, a masterpiece that has enchanted audiences for centuries, will

be brought to life by The Coffee County Arts Alliance in what promises to be an unforgettable community choral presentation.

Founded on principles of openness and community - everyone is welcome to enjoy as the community gathers together in the performance of this celebrated work.

As the hallowed spaces of the church fill with the harmonious voices of local talent, students and professional singers, attendees will be

invited on a journey through the epochs of prophecy, passion, and redemption. This rendition, under the direction of Dr. Ken Thomas, is not just a musical event, but a soulful communion; an evening where timeless music and community spirit intertwine, evoking emotions and memories that will linger long after the final note has been sung.

There is no admission fee for this event, but donations are appreciated.



Several enjoyed the Elba High School Class of 1966 breakfast gathering Tuesday, Nov. 14, at The Outpost in New Brockton, but several 'regulars' were missing! Those in attendance were (left to right): Judy Galimore Brown, Jerry Brown, Eddie Thompson, Kenneth Baker, Jackey Tindol, Butch Ogg, Terry Calhoun, Neal Hutto, John Lawless, Sara War Strong, and Jeannette Hutto. Food and fellowship was enjoyed by all.



Coffee County students Leanna Carr, William Wyrosdick and Easton McKelvy attended the Alfa Youth Leadership Conference Nov. 13-14 at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana. The conference teaches students how to advocate for agriculture, identify their potential and step into leadership roles. The event is for 9th and 10th graders. Sponsors are Alabama Farmers Federation, Coffee County Farmers Federation, Alabama Ag Credit and Alabama Farm Credit. Carr attends Enterprise High School, Wyrosdick attends Kinston High School, and McKelvy attends Elba High School. From left are Alabama Farmers Federation's Matthew Durdin, Carr, Wyrosdick and McKelvy.

Alabama 4-H conference helps mold young leaders

Written by Tanner Hood

The 2023 Alfa Youth Leadership Conference helped 87 high school freshmen and sophomores from across Alabama develop crucial life and ag advocacy skills at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana Nov. 13-14.

The two-day conference was hosted by the Alabama Farmers Federation and began with students networking with other young people from around the state. Later, character development sessions were hosted by professional speakers Noah Galloway and Rhett Laubach.

Galloway, a veteran, double amputee and Purple Heart Recipient, shared his story of tragedy to triumph. Using his mantra "no excuses," the Birmingham native taught students the importance of never giving up while always finding a way to make their lives and others' better.

His parting message to the group was, "Don't be average. Be exceptional." "One thing [Noah] showed me is no matter if I have thoughts going

through my mind like 'You can't do this,' I actually can do it," said Addy Kirkland, a sophomore at Rehobeth High School in Houston County. "Don't ever give up on yourself," is what I took away from it."

Laubach continued the effort by teaching students to develop leadership characteristics through high-energy and high-impact workshops. Laubach, a professional trainer and presentations coach, guided students to understand their strengths and acknowledge and overcome their weaknesses to be effective leaders.

Lincoln County High School sophomore Cristen Haynes said the speakers were intriguing and pushed them outside their known limits to use skills they didn't know they had.

"Through engaging us, it was easier for us to develop and demonstrate the qualities we were learning," the Talladega County native said.

"Breaking us into groups and interacting with students across the state made us uncomfortable, but it was a good opportunity to build our way out

and use those skills. It was the most inspirational and motivating conference I've attended."

Students also enjoyed outdoor activities and team-building exercises with 4-H staff, heard from a panel of young farmers about future careers and opportunities in ag, and learned the importance of leadership in ag advocacy from Federation Young Farmers Division Director Hunter McBrayer.

"Our future lies with our young people," McBrayer said. "We want to develop future leaders who know how to interact with others, work for the common good and promote a better society for not only agriculture but everything. This conference gives us the opportunity to educate and develop exceptional students who can shape their communities, state and country."

The highlight of the conference included a session where students practiced the skill of service and assembled wooden toys to send to patients at Children's of Alabama Hospital this holiday season.

Bullock County sophomore Rose Ryan-Ulver said leading included giving back to others, and this project was a fun way to help those who are less fortunate.

"As a leader you have to serve others," said Ryan-Ulver. "You can help people, even out of your circle, if you take the time to appreciate the smaller things and give them something to look forward to."

The Alfa Youth Leadership Conference is sponsored by Alabama Ag Credit and Alabama Farm Credit.



The Republican Women of Coffee County held its October meeting at the Enterprise Country Club. Guest speakers were Bryan Taylor, who is running for AL Supreme Court Chief Justice, and Rich Anderson, candidate for AL Court of Criminal Appeals. They discussed their backgrounds and why they are running for office. RWCC meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Enterprise Country Club. Social time begins at 11 am, an optional \$13 buffet opens at 11:30, and the programs begin at approximately noon. Everyone is welcome, but reservations are necessary. To RSVP, email: rwccreservations@gmail.com and indicate if planning to eat. For more information, contact Robin at 334-389-4410. Pictured above left to right: RWCC 1st VP Carol Boylston, Bryan Taylor, RWCC President Robin Foy, and Rich Anderson.

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